

January 10, 2009



We started off the new year with a day trip to Pacific Grove, Monterey and Carmel



January 17, 2009



The whole family celebrated Gary's 60th birthday and a belated Christmas at a fantastic dinner at Ivy and Linda's home



January 18, 2009



Alexander took advantage of the sunny 70 degree weather to drive his car across the street from Grandma and Papa's house to the park



February 2009
"Summer Twilight"
art quilt by Sharon Rossi





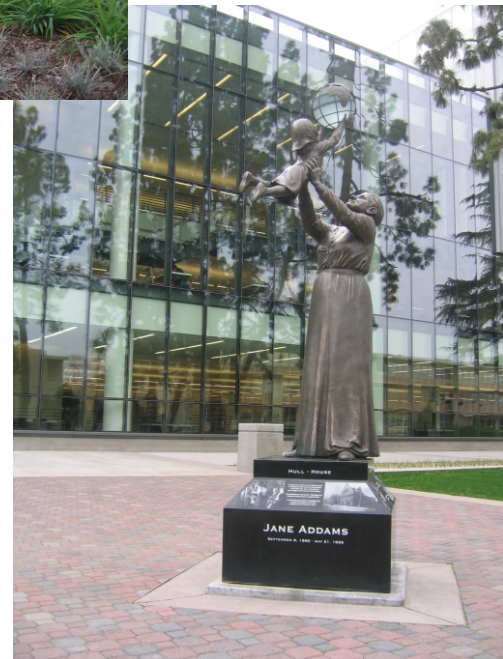
February 7, 2009
We celebrated an early
Valentine's day
with the family



February 2009



February 21, 2009
Amanda led us on a tour of the new
California State University Fresno
Henry Madden Library





**Amanda's office at
CSUF Henry Madden Library**





**February 22, 2009
Celebrating Sharon's
60th birthday at a
local Chinese restaurant
with friends & family**





February 27, 2009
Nick & Bettie Rossi visiting
their son Tony, wife Erica and
grandsons Domenick,
Cameron and Bradley in
Tracy, CA. Our family visited
with them for the day.



**Bradley and Alexander
are three weeks apart
in age.**



March 10, 2009
The Central California
Chapter of People To People
International held
“Japan Night” at the
home of Rich and Dwayne
Berrett. Student Ambassador
Alex Peterson shared
memories and photos of
his trip to Japan.





March 14-15, 2009
We spent the weekend in San Francisco celebrating Alexis' birthday. We had a "jewelry" weekend, visiting the Artistic Luxury exhibit at the Legion of Honor and the Contemporary Craft Show at Fort Mason.



Sharon is creating displays for the Beatrix Potter events at Fresno State.



March 28, 2009



Alex took his first steps this week, but he's still zooming around in his walker.



Alexander's Granny Katherin visited Fresno and we celebrated Alexis and Amanda's March birthdays. In this photo, Alex is playing with his toy cabinets at Papa and Grandma's house.





Happy Birthday Amanda and Alexis!



April 11, 2009



On Saturday the family got together to color eggs in preparation for Easter.



April 12, 2009 - Easter Sunday
Sharon & Alexis prepared the Easter lunch
buffet for family and friends



Alexis made
her famous
deviled eggs



The 2009 Easter Egg Obstacle Race
Weather conditions: Perfect!
Course condition: Challenging!





There were 15 contestants in the Obstacle Egg Race this year. And the prizes went to ...



Vivian Shinkawa won the coveted “Losing Prize”



And Marc Rossi won the treasured “Winning Prize”!

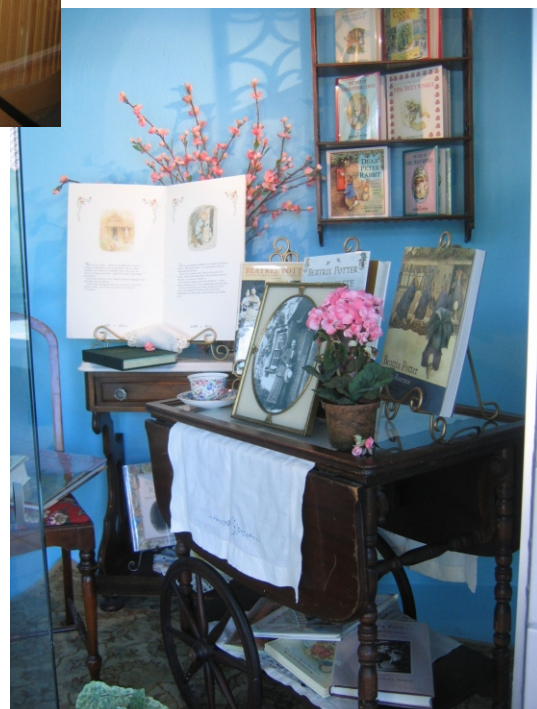
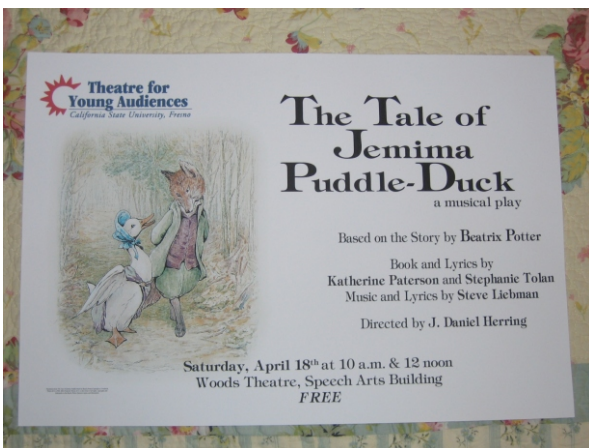


Alex enjoyed finding his baskets on his first Easter



April 14, 2009
John Wright Theater, California State University Fresno

For the Arne Nixon Center,
Sharon created displays
in the four showcases at
the John Wright Theater
for the Beatrix Potter
convention and the
staging of *The Tale
of Jemima Puddle-Duck*.



April 19, 2009
The Arne Nixon Center Advocates hosted a
Secret Garden Party celebrating Beatrix Potter at the
McGregor home.
Sharon provided
the decor for the
serving tables.





**Beatrix Potter (Linda Spalding)
with Peter Rabbit**



**Denise Sciandra chatting with the
Fresno Master Gardeners**



**Beatrix poses with Angelica Carpenter,
founding curator of the Arne Nixon Center**



**Beatrix with Beatrix Potter Society members
visiting from England**





Denise Sciandra, president of ANCA, John Welty, president of CSUF, and Peter McDonald, dean of the Henry Madden Library, addressed the 200 guests at the Secret Garden Party.





**The McGregors,
hosts of the
Secret Garden Party**



April 25, 2009
Sharon's front yard garden
in spring. Alexander is
picking snapdragons
for his grandma.





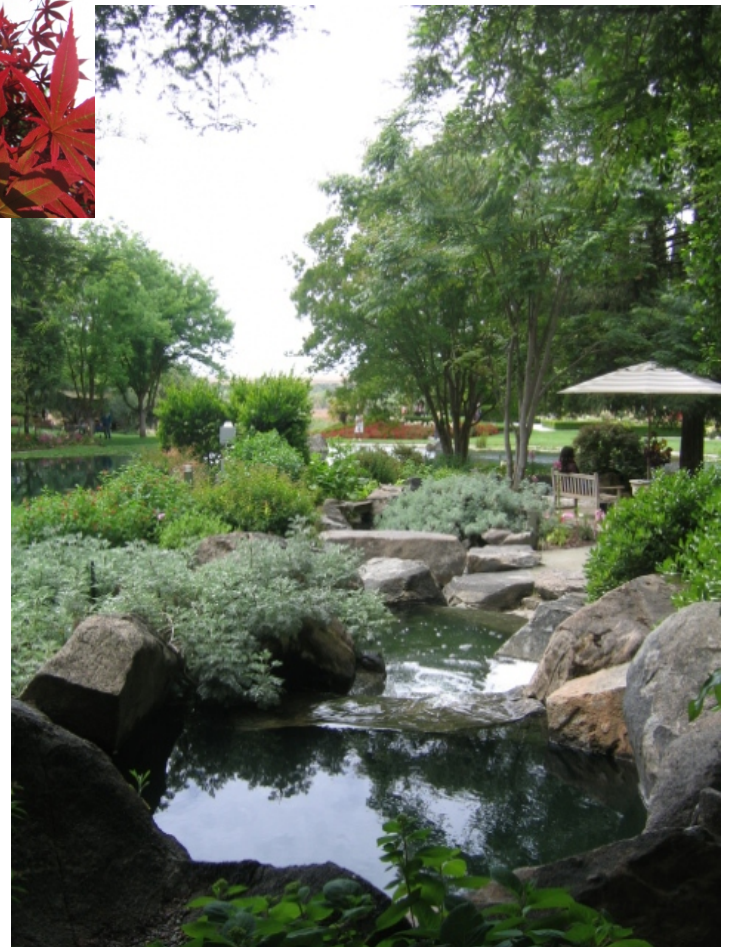
May 1, 2009
Alexander Dominic Rossi
enjoying a meal

May 2, 2009
Linda in their kitchen which
has been stripped to the studs.
Linda & Ivy's front garden
is looking gorgeous.



May 2, 2009
The Master Gardener Tour
in Fresno and Clovis





Master Gardener Tour

May 3, 2009
Alexander, Amanda, Marc, Sharon & Gary
took a hike on the Lewis Creek trail
near Yosemite





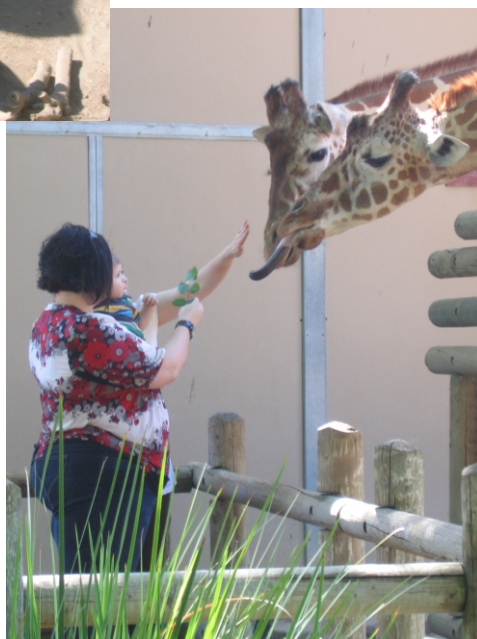
**Snow Plant,
a mycotrophic
plant which
derives nutrition
from fungi and
grows near
conifers**



**May 9, 2009
We took Alexander
for an early morning
visit to the Fresno Zoo**



**Alexander
and Alexis
feeding
the giraffes**



May 9, 2009
"Venetian Night" at the Berrett's home.
Rich & Dwayne hosted the dinner,
and Don serenaded the guests with
traditional Italian songs accompanied
by Gary on the accordion.



“Venetian Night” guests boarded two boats on Woodward Lake after dinner to enjoy the sunset, the Italian music, and Alexis’ polenta cookies served with a glass of vin santo.



May 10, 2009 - Mother's Day
Alexis and Gary prepared dinner and Marc made
brownies for dessert.



May 18, 2009



Marc & Amanda's new Toyota Matrix



May 23, 2009

Alexis made a banana-chocolate monkey cake for Alexander's birthday party



May 23, 2009
Amanda & Marc hosted a brunch
at their home to celebrate
Alexander's first birthday



Alexander's "personal photographers" Matt and Suzanne were on hand to capture Alexander enjoying his first birthday cake.





Alexander loved his banana-chocolate monkey cake!



Alexander enjoyed celebrating with his playgroup buddies



May 23, 2009
Zia Alexis gave Alexander
his first “ride”, a giraffe



Marc's first “ride” was also a giraffe!



Sharon, Marc, Janet and Papa Rossi
December 1970



May 30, 2009
Gary, Sharon and Alexis spent the weekend in the wine country. After lunch in Sonoma, we visited CornerStone Gardens.





We enjoyed the macarons at Bouchon in Yountville and the hand made chocolates at Woodhouse in St. Helena



We stayed at the WorldMark resort in Windsor



**May 31, 2009
Ferrari-Carano winery and gardens in the Dry Creek Valley near Healdsburg**





Dry Creek Valley wineries

Ferrari-Carano



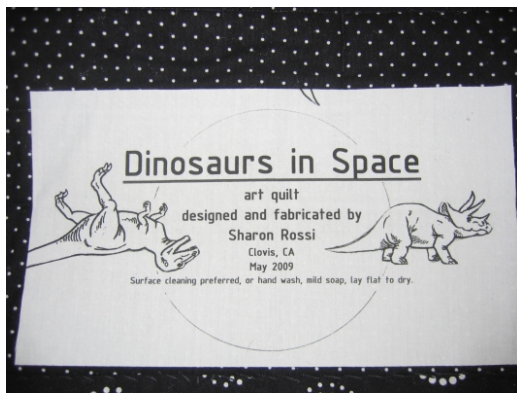
Preston winery



Hop Kiln winery



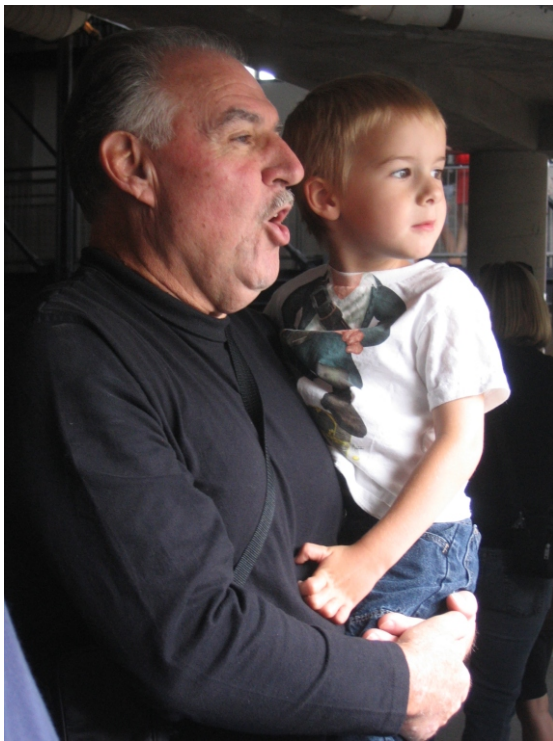
June 2009
Sharon's art quilt
"Dinosaurs in Space"



June 13, 2009
Baby shower for Lisa Sciandra



June 15, 2009
Janet, Nick & Bettie visited California and
the family got together to spend
the day in Monterey



Domenick & Cameron
enjoyed the Aquarium





On the beach at Asilomar

**June 16, 2009
Janet came to visit in Clovis
and we celebrated her birthday**



**June 17, 2009
Janet visited with Alexander
at Marc & Amanda's house**



**We toured the Henry
Madden Library at
California State
University Fresno
where Amanda is
a librarian on staff**

**Janet stopped by Gary's office to see
the architectural model of
San Joaquin Gardens**



June 21, 2009
We took a Father's Day hike
and enjoyed a picnic in
Kings Canyon National Park





**July 11, 2009
Our First Annual
Rock, Paper, Scissors
Tournament. Referee
Gary officiates at the
tournament ...**



**... and accompanies Don
at the piano.**



**We enjoyed a summer
inspired meal and
Ivy's tarts for dessert.**





Blue Team champion Dwayne Berrett and Red Team champion Denise Sciandra faced off in the finals. Denise won the title of Grand Master and the Red Team took home the prizes.



July 19, 2009
Alexis hosted a chocolate chip cookie smackdown at her flat in San Francisco. There were five contestants and the guests were all judges in a blind taste test.



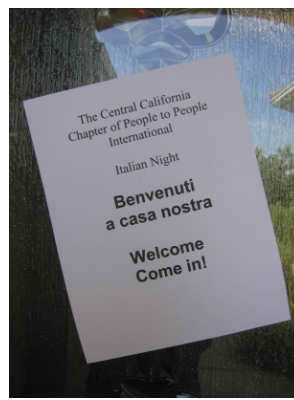


The chocolate chip cookie bakers were Grover, Scarlet, Elizabeth, Alexis & Sharon

And the winners were 3rd place Scarlet, 2nd place Grover and the smackdown champion Alexis



**July 26, 2009
People To People International
"Italian Night"**



**Members and guests
enjoyed Italian food
and shared stories
about Italian travel
and culture.**



August 2, 2009
We stayed overnight at Asilomar
in Pacific Grove in The Lodge, a
historic building, on a typically
foggy summer day.





**August 3, 2009
Views of spectacular
Point Lobos State Park**





**We drove down the coast highway
through Big Sur to Cambria.**



August 13-14, 2009
Alexander Dominic Rossi having fun
at Grandma and Papa's house

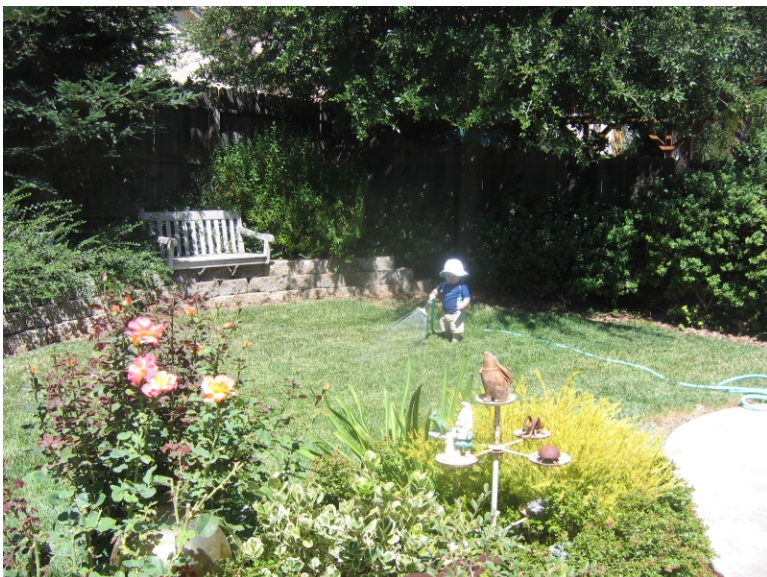


Alex is an enthusiastic eater!



Alex can climb on the couch





Alex loves to play in the garden with water

Alex can climb up and down (sort of) the steps



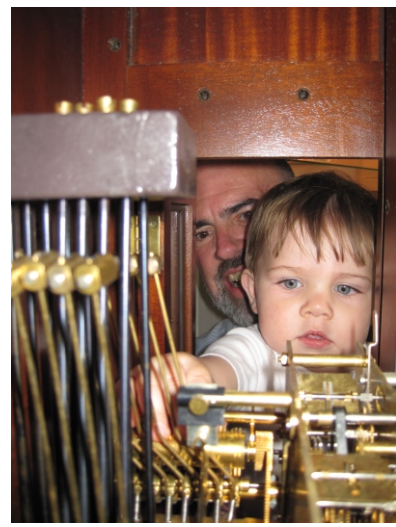
Where do the beads go when you turn the bee upside down?



**August 22 & 23, 2009
Alexander is entertaining
his adoring fans at
Grandma & Papa's
house and at the zoo**



**August 27, 2009
Alexander helps
Papa wind the clock
every Thursday**



Alexander cooling off at Fashion Fair Mall

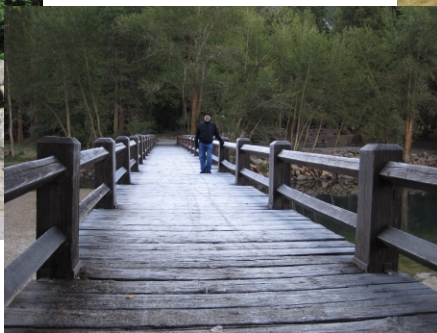


**September 11, 2009
Having fun at
Grandma & Papa's house**





**October 4, 2009
Overnight at
Yosemite
National Park -
frost on the
ground, no water
in Yosemite Falls**



**October 8, 2009
Enjoying the Fresno County Fair
and the Beach Boys with Ivy & Linda.
Sharon won a first place ribbon for her
original design quilt.**

October 11, 2009
San Francisco



Italian Heritage
Parade in North
Beach, on the
edge of
Chinatown





Sharon & Alexis are doing the Chicken Dance





Ferraris in Washington Square Park

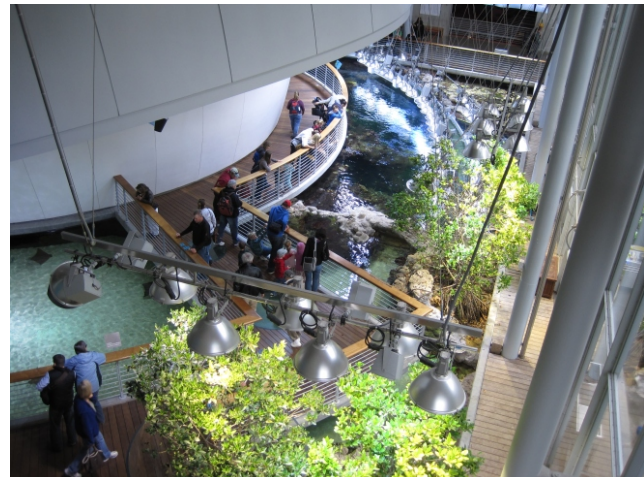


**October 12, 2009
We visited the newly opened California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park.**



**Sharon on the
Living Roof**

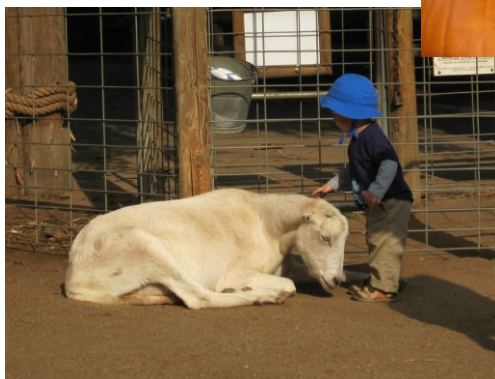
**The museum was
briefly evacuated
for a false alarm!
We were grateful
for the mild
weather.**



California Academy of Sciences has an impressive walk-through rain forest, aquarium and first-rate food.



October 17, 2009
Alexander shopping for pumpkins for Halloween



October 18, 2009
Alex stayed over-night with Papa and Grandma and we visited the zoo. Alex is using Papa as a shield from a nearby peacock.



October 20, 2009
Sharon picked up her Blue Ribbon winning quilt, "Rising Sun" from the Fresno County Fair.

October 24, 2009
The five adult members
of Alex's entourage took him
to "Zoo Boo" at Fresno Chaffee Zoo



Alex wore his monkey
costume and Alexis
wore her peacock
headdress



November 2, 2009
Alexander is cooking dinner for Papa



**November 15, 2009 -- Papa and Grandma babysat Alex while
Mama and Dada vacationed overnight in Avila Beach**



November 16, 2009
We visited Grant Grove and Hume Lake in Sequoia National Park



November 17, 2009
Marc's 40th birthday party



November 25, 2009
The start of the Thanksgiving holiday

**The whole family is watching
"Dora the Explorer"**

November 26, 2009
Thanksgiving Day





Alex is decorating his first Christmas tree with Zia Alexis



**November 27, 2009
Baking cookies
and playing Christmas carols**





November 28, 2009
Alexis & Alex are decorating cookies

November 29, 2009 - End of a beautiful Thanksgiving holiday



**December 5, 2009
Holiday dinner at Ivy and Linda's house with
Ivy's family ...**



**... followed by a walk
down Christmas Tree Lane**





December 6, 2009
Alexis and Jeannie Kim hosted a
Cookie Smackdown party at
Alexis's flat in San Francisco.



Ken the Christmas
Elf officiated.



A clean sweep!
Jeannie won in all
three categories:
sandwich cookie,
drop cookie and
shaped cookie.



December 7, 2009

We visited Alexis at the new offices of the Internet Archive, a former Christian Science Church in San Francisco.



Macarons at Paulette's in Hayes Valley



We enjoyed a visit with Erica, Domenick, Cameron and Bradley Rossi in Tracy.





December 13, 2009
We spent three days in Santa Barbara
while Gary was there on business



We had a sunset dinner on Stearns Wharf
then watched the holiday boat parade



December 16, 2009
Alex rode his new truck, a
Christmas gift from Aunt Susan
and Shawna's family.



December 18, 2009
Preparations for our annual
Christmas sing-a-long party.



Linda & Ivy set up
the display of
their homemade
desserts.



The Christmas sing-a-long party ...
eat, drink, sing and be merry!



The 12 Days of Christmas

Four calling birds



Five golden rings



Six geese a-laying

Ten lords-a-leaping
(except for Sal & Ken who are
two lords just-a-rising)



Eleven pipers piping

Seven swans a-swimming

**December 23, 2009
Preparations for Christmas -
Alex is enjoying his
Learning Tower, a
Christmas gift from
Grandma & Papa.**



**December 24, 2009
We opened our stocking gifts
on Christmas Eve.**





December 25, 2009
Zia Alexis gave Alex a kitchen
for Christmas and he made
dinner for all of us!





Alexander helped everyone open their Christmas gifts.



After dinner we walked through the neighborhood to see the lights.



Alexis gave Marc an electronically responsive audio meter t-shirt!



